August 26, 2019

Season 4 Episode 1

[This episode starts with an establishing shot of Summerway, focusing on the lake. It’s a stormy night, a hurricane is rolling in. Lightning flashes, and we see Cute Camp on Dunnit Island in the distance. The lightning flashes again and we see April, her hood drawn, carrying Jake through the building storm.]

[Cut to April entering the Treasure Trackers mansion. She closes the door behind her. Her three wards - Diana, Dylan, and Aurora come up]

Dylan: Who is that?

April: Quickly, get something hot on the stove. I found him by the beach.

Aurora: Is that… an Eagle?

Diana: That’s not a bird, that’s a person, dummy.

Aurora: I am not a dummy.

April: Would you two please stop fighting. He needs some help, and yes… he is an Eagle.

[April places Jake down on a sofa. Jake coughs up some water. His eyes pop open and he sits up to see April sitting on a seat just across the way.]

April: Easy now. I heard that you Eagles pulled off some interesting stunts, but swimming in a hurricane?

Jake: Hurricane?

April: Yeah, and it looks to be a big one.

Jake: Thank you Ms…

April: April.

Jake: Yeah, whatever. Look, I need to get to the mayor. Something big is going on and whoever it is has to know about—

Dylan: Soup’s ready.

[Dylan enters with the soup, and Aurora and Diana are not too far behind. Jake stares at them.]

April: Yes?

Jake: Perhaps we can speak… in private? I don’t want to needlessly frighten anyone.

Diana: Ain’t nothing frightens me!

Aurora: Cept dogs.

Diana: Aurora, you said you wouldn’t tell!

April: I assure you, my brother and sisters can handle whatever you can throw.

Jake: Look, it’s not important that I tell anyone but the mayor.

[Jake gets up and he walks over to the window.]

Jake: You took me to the middle of the forest!?

April: I could have left you on the beach, Mr. Eagle. If you need me to repeat, there’s a hurricane going on, and no one is leaving this house until it’s over.

Dylan: Wait, really?

April: It’s going to be a large one. It’d be too dangerous to even step outside.

Jake: Then maybe that buys me some time.

[April puts her hand on Jake’s shoulder to stop him.]

April: That includes you.

Jake: I am an officer that represents the Eagleworths, I do not have to take an order from a civilian.

April: I saved your life. You could at least do me the favor to make sure that my efforts weren’t wasted.

[Jake thinks for a moment.]

April: I do believe that you have something gravely important to tell, but if you get lost in the forest or struck by lightning, whatever that is goes with you.

Dylan: I think you should listen to her, Mr. um… Eagle.

Jake: The name’s Jake. Officer Jake.

Dylan: Officer Jake would you like some soup?

Jake: Fine, whatever.

[Jake looks out the window.]

Jake: Hopefully the hurricane delays us all.

[Cut to an establishing shot at the former Cute Camp. The waves rock the island, and the Eagles working on building the ferry. Cut to inside, with Lexi looking on at them. She’s got her hand on the window, as the rain patters it.]

Lexi: You’ve got to let them inside. This storm is going to—

[Shane walks up behind her.]

Shane: Going to what? I thought the Eagles were Americandy’s finest. Are you telling me that the best kids in this country are beaten by a little bit of rain?

Lexi: N-no.

Shane: Alexandria, my sweet. I had no idea you thought so little of your comrades.

Lexi: I don’t. These are the greatest kids you will meet and you’re running them ragged.

Shane: Any of them can come in… if they’re willing to deal with the consequences.

[The lightning crashes.]

Lexi: Fine, I’m going to help them.

[Lexi rushes off, but Shane grabs her shoulder.]

Shane: Oh no you’re not. You’re not leaving this building until the storm is over.

Lexi: Why!?

Shane: Because you’re much too valuable to waste like that.

[Lexi bites her lip and looks out the window. This is used as a transition to Jake looking out the window. In the reflection we see Aurora with the phone.]

Aurora: Well, no phone access. Hopefully mom and dad are gonna be okay.

Jake: That’s just perfect.

[Jake gets up away from the window.]

Jake: What do you not understand about me needing to get to Town Hall now.

April: I understand it fine. Playing in the rain can be fun, but a hurricane is far too much.

Jake: There is an adult rebellion brewing up in Dunnit Island right now and you're just—

[April's eyes narrow. The younger kids seem more surprised and confused than anything.]

Diana: Adult… rebellion? What's that word mean.

[Aurora whispers in her ear. Diana seems shocked at first, and then she laughs it off.]

Aurora: funny story, Mr. Birdguy, but you're going to need a better ghost story to scare me.

April: It's not a ghost story. Come on, let's go in the dining room.

[Cut to all of them in the dining room, April is closing the shades and the wards look on. Diana looks frightened, but she puts on a brave face whenever she looks on. Aurora is deep in thought, and Dylan looks on in curiosity.]

Jake: Are you sure you want them to listen to this? I don't want to give anyone

nightmares.

[April turns around, clearly more worried.]

April: It’s better to have nightmares in your bed, than wake to them in the day. These kids are going to need to know this eventually.

[Jake nods. We get a silent scene, where Jake describes what happened in the previous episode. The wards get various frightened faces as Jake goes on. He integrates shadow puppetry, showing things like the spankings.]

Jake: And that’s why I need to speak with your official, immediately.

[April is lost in thought, until Dylan tugs on her sleeve. April looks down.]

Dylan: April, I need to go home. My little brothers, I don’t wanna leave them with my parents if they might do something like that—

Jake: This is why we keep things on a need-to-know basis in the Eagles.

April: So, you hope to have them find out about this as the grown-ups go strolling through the streets?

Jake: No. I’m going to get to Town Hall, I’m going to speak to your mayor, and we’re going to send in the main force of the Eagles.

[April looks to her walking stick.]

April: Just tell me one thing.

Jake: What’s that?

April: Why do you think that anyone would believe you?

[Jake almost laughs at the question.]

April: If they have Lexi, she could just claim that you’re lying. The hurricane might be the only reason why she hasn’t told the higher ups that you broke scout’s honor.

Jake: That’s why I need to go now.

April: I know you often leave the thinking to your commanding officer, but you’re going to need to start doing that now.

Diana: I say bring ‘em on. We can take on any grown-ups who think they’re better than us.

Aurora: If you say so.

[April looks to Dylan.]

April: Don’t worry. Your brothers will be fine during the storm. You know your parents and you know that they’d never do anything like those grown-ups in Cute Camp.

Dylan: R-right.

April: I say that we play pretend.

Aurora: Ooh, I love pretend!

Jake: Seriously? You're as kooky as a teenager.

April: Pretend that I'm the mayor. Try and get me to move even scouts to Cute Camp.

Jake: I'm not putting up with this. I have more serious matters to deal with.

April: My my, you're sounding like those grown-ups you're so afraid of.

[Jake looks awkwardly at April. April looks towards the history book about the dinosaurs.]

April: If you want to win against them, you need to start using the traits that they don't have.

[Jake sits down on one of the chairs, sadly.]

Jake: You… sound kinda like Lexi when you say that.

April: She sounds like a very smart kid.

Jake: She's super smart, super strong. She could take a hundred spankings without even flinching. Any other kid would crack by ten. I gotta save her.

April: Then you want to get this right.

Jake: How long is the hurricane supposed to last, anyway?

April: About three days, if we’re lucky.

Jake: I can’t just sit here for three days!

Aurora: We can… play games. I’m really good at checkers!

Jake: Why don’t kids like you take anything seriously?

April: Because they can rely on kids like you to do their job right.

[The lightning crashes and we have silence for a beat.]

April: Officer, you’ve got to stay calm. Keep a level head, and logically think of your options. I understand that time is of the essence.

Jake: Well, what am I supposed to do for three days?

[Jump cut to Jake playing checkers with Aurora.]

Aurora: I win again!

Jake: You’re really good at this game.

Aurora: I’m good at a lot of things.

[Diana walks by with a play sword.]

Diana: That’s because she’s a smarty pants!

Aurora: Hey!

Jake: What’s wrong with being smart?

Diana: It’s so stuck up and boring!

Aurora: Only dummies think that.

Diana: I am not a dummy!

[Jake pinches the bridge of his nose, and then he walks away as the two girls fight it out. He walks into the kitchen, where Dylan is rushing back and forth. He’s stirring from a pot.]

Jake: More soup?

Dylan: April says that we could all use something nice and warm with the weather going on. I can make you something else if you want.

Jake: Nah, I’m fine. When you’re an Eagle, you’ll eat stale cookies if they’re offered to you.

Dylan: I wish my brothers were like you. If I don’t use the right cheese or the right

amount on their macaroni, they’ll throw a fit.

[Dylan looks sad as he looks at the pot. Then he turns to Jake.]

Dylan: Officer…

Jake: Yes?

Dylan: You were making up all that stuff about what the grown-ups did, weren’t you?

[Jake looks down and then he looks forward.]

Jake: Your sister told me not to lie to you.

[Dylan looks frightened.]

Dylan: Then it is true. There are… grown-ups who do that kind of stuff.

Jake: Yes, there are.

Dylan: W-what if my parents— and my brothers, and—

Jake: You should trust your sister.

[There’s a beat as Dylan nods.]

Dylan: She’s not really my sister, you know.

Jake: Aren’t you all a little old for the Big Brother, Big Sister program?

Dylan: Yeah, but April’s nice. And I feel like everyone here is my sister just as much as my brothers are my brothers.

Jake: I know what you mean.

[Cut to outside. There’s a lightning strike that hits the house. The power goes out, leaving Jake and Dylan alone in the darkness. Dylan rushes to shut off the stove.]

Diana: {Off-screen} (Screams)

Aurora: {Off-screen} Come on, Diana, it’s just a power outage.

Jake: That’s just great. Hey kid, you got a flashlight.

[Dylan takes out his cellphone and uses that as a light.]

Jake: I guess that’ll work. Better than doing nothing with it.

[Cut to everyone walking to the entrance of the Treasure Trackers mansion. April walks down the stairs.]

April: It’s going to be okay, it’s just a rough storm. According to the radio, there have been blackouts all over Summerway.

Aurora: Maybe that’ll slow down the grown-ups.

Jake: No, I don’t think so. Dunnit Island has its own backup… generators. Hey, April, are there any here?

April: Yes, in the basement.

Jake: Alright, where’s the entrance.

April: Out back.

[Jake rolls his eyes.]

Jake: May I please go outside to get it working.

[April looks to the window.]

April: I guess it’s not too far. Just be careful.

[Jake nods, and he starts walking outside. Dylan follows him.]

Jake: Hey kid, you need to stay inside where it’s safe.

[Dylan shakes his head. April looks on with curiosity.]

Dylan: If what you said is true… I gotta be brave.

Diana: Scaredy pants being brave, ha.

Aurora: If you’re so brave, you go with them.

Diana: I’m not going out in the rain.

[Jake looks up to April.]

Jake: Is it alright?

April: These kids are free to make their own choices.

[Cut to Jake stumbling through the rain and debris to get to the back, with Dylan holding on tightly.]

Jake: Yeah, the only kid not allowed to make their own choices here is the one with military authority!

[Jake gets hit in the face with a branch.]

[Cut to the two of them opening the basement. They walk downstairs to find that the generator is attached to a giant hamster wheel.]

Jake: Really? It’s a manual. This is just perfect.

Dylan: What does that mean?

Jake: Power doesn’t come from nowhere, Dylan. For this to work, someone has to run around in that giant hamster wheel.

Dylan: Who are we gonna get to—

[Jump cut to them back in the Treasure Trackers mansion, with all five of them there.]

Diana: I ain’t doin’ it.

Aurora: Well yeah, there’s no way that you’re strong and fast enough to power this whole mansion.

[Jump cut to Diana running on all fours in the hamster wheel. April and Jake are also there. Jake looks on dumbfounded.]

Jake: She ain’t the brightest berry on the bush, is she?

April: She can be… when she wants to.

[Cut to the four others back in the den of the Treasure Trackers mansion.]

April: It’s not much, but Diana can keep one room powered up.

Aurora: Glad she’s good for something.

April: Aurora, you don’t mean that.

Aurora: I guess not, but she’s… always teasing me. It’s getting annoying.

April: You know that she doesn’t mean it.

Aurora: Yeah, whatever.

[Jake stands up and looks to the window.]

Jake: I… still can’t feel like I can stay here and do nothing.

April: I know. Just try to take your mind off of it for now.

Jake: An Eagle’s mind always needs to be on the mission. I don’t think that I’ll be sleeping tonight.

April: I see.

Jake: There needs to be something.

[Dylan thinks.]

Dylan: You can train us.

Aurora: What are you nuts!? Train us to fight grown-ups?

Jake: I’m not exactly qualified for that kind of duty.

Dylan: So what, you’re just gonna leave us cowering as the grown-ups take over Summerway? I betcha there are worse things they can do to us than what you saw.

Jake: It takes years to learn—

Dylan: Then I need to know this now. I need to protect my brothers, and my sisters here.

Jake: You see, that’s the kind of reason that I don’t want to teach you!

[Dylan takes a step back]

Dylan: What do you mean?

Jake: Lexi made sure that each Eagle in her platoon called his or parents every single day. I can see why she did that now.

Dylan: I don’t get it.

April: Dylan, there are good adults in the world.

Dylan: I know…

Jake: Do you? Or do you think that they’ll rebel as soon as they get the chance.

Dylan: I… uh…

Jake: Are your brothers safe at home, alone in a storm with your parents?

Dylan: Um… I uh…

[The lights go out again.]

Dylan: Get out of my way!

Aurora: Hey, watch it!

[Aurora takes out a glowing toy and gives the room some small amount of light.]

April: Something must have happened to Aurora, I gotta go check on her.

Jake: Wait, where’s Dylan?

[Jake and April look at each other nervously. The front door swings open. The sound of thunder crashes.]

Aurora: Is… Dylan going to be okay?

Jake: Still want to be totally honest with your family, April?

April: We need to move quickly.

Jake: You take care of Diana. I’ll go get Dylan, if that’s okay with you.

April: Yes, now go and find him while there’s still something to find!

[Jake nods and he runs out into the storm.]

[Cut to Jake running through the Treasure Trackers yard. He comes across some markings in the dirt.]

Jake: These are fresh. Great, he’s driving.

[Jake takes a deep breath and he starts charging along down the road.]

[Cut to April and Aurora laying Diana down on the couch.]

April: She must have pushed herself too hard. She’s passed out.

Aurora: I-I’m sorry. I didn’t mean to tease her like that.

April: There’ll be time for apologies later. Right now, we’ve got a job to do. Get some water.

[April places a damp cloth on Diana’s head. Diana wakes up.]

Diana: W-what happened?

April: You ran until you passed out. Wasn’t the smartest thing that you’ve ever done.

Diana: I know. I’m just tired of getting teased by Aurora.

[Aurora enters the room with the water.]

April: Well, it seems like the two of you have a lot to talk about.

[Diana looks around, and sees Aurora standing there awkwardly.]

Diana: where’s Dylan

[Cut to Jake running down the road, through the wild winds of the night. He eventually comes across a break in the guard rails. Dylan’s car as gone over a small cliff and is hanging on there, above a bunch of trees.]

Jake: That’s not good.

[Jake walks to the edge.]

Jake: Dylan, are you there!?

[Dylan looks to the window of the car.]

Dylan: Y-yeah. The road was slippery, and… I kinda

Jake: J-just don’t move. I’m coming down!

[Jake looks to the cliffs.]

Jake: [Softly] This is all way too wet. Come on, don’t just stand there. Lexi would know exactly what to do.

[There’s a lightning strike in the background.]

Dylan: I-I think the car is slipping. It’s not going to hold for too much longer.

[Lexi becomes overlaid in the background as Jake speaks.]

Jake & Lexi: You’ve got to stay calm. Don’t make any sudden movements.

[Cut to just Jake looking over the edge.]

Jake: Crawl into the back seat, as carefully as you can.

[Dylan does that, as he crawls over the edge, the car rattles. He lands in the back and the car jolts a little bit. Then the car starts to slip.]

Jake: No, it’s slipping. I’ve got to do something, now!

[Dylan looks up to see Jake backing up.]

Dylan: What are you doing! Don’t leave me like this!

[Cut to Jake looking at the gap. He takes a deep breath.]

Jake: Well… here goes nothing.

[Jake runs and then he jumps down the cliff onto the car with as much force as he can muster, even making an impact into it.]

Jake: Brace yourself!

[Dylan covers his face, and Jake takes out his clackers. He starts to smash the glass of the back window.]

Dylan: Y-you’re going to break the car.

Jake: Trust me, it’s better than the alternative.

[Jake swings again and glass spreads everywhere as the window breaks. The car jitters some more.]

Dylan: We don’t got much longer!

[Jake offers his hand and Dylan grabs it. The car starts slipping.]

Dylan: W-we’re slipping.

Jake: Good. Get ready to jump.

Dylan: Jump!? What are you—

[The front of the car goes over the edge, lifting up the back of the car. At this time, Jake tosses Dylan up and onto the road. Jake is able to jump a second later, but he

doesn’t completely make it. He’s only able to grab onto the rocks of the cliff. The car tumbles down into the woods behind them Dylan runs up.]

Dylan: Jake, are you okay!?

[Jake slips back down onto the ledge]

Jake: I… think so. The rocks are too slippery to climb up.

Dylan: I-I’ll get April.

[The wind blows stronger, and Jake can barely keep his footing.]

Jake: I don’t think I’ve got time for that.

Dylan: Then… what do I do?

[Dylan looks around for something. Jake takes out his camp gun and he fires it, but it’s drowned out by the sounds of the storm.]

Jake: Great… this storm is too loud for my cap gun. I… don’t think I’m getting out of this one, Dylan.

Dylan: There’s got to be something I can do.

Jake: I’ve worked my entire childhood to earn this sash and I can’t think of a single thing.

Dylan: That’s it, hand me your sash!

Jake: But it’s my—

Dylan: It’s better than the alternative.

[Jake nods and he sadly takes off his sash. Dylan takes out a swiss army knife and cuts it to make it a rope. He tosses one end down to Jake, and Jake grabs it. Dylan ties the other end to the guard rails. Jake climbs up and makes it up to the top. Jake almost collapses onto the road.]

Dylan: C’mon, it’s a long way to April’s house… we can’t rest yet.

[They start walking and eventually in the rainy fog they see headlights. As they get closer, they find that it’s April driving. April doesn’t look too pleased. The two of them get inside, both in the back seat.]

Dylan: A-April, I’m sorry.

[April doesn’t speak for a good long beat.]

Dylan: I… had to protect my brothers.

April: You could have been killed. Who would you have protected like that?

Dylan: No one—

April: If Jake didn’t find you, do you know what could have happened?

Jake: He did… save me too.

April: He shouldn’t have had to have done that. What were you thinking?

Jake: I think that I know what he was thinking.

[Cut to them back at the Treasure Trackers mansion, walking in the entrance. The lights are on.]

Jake: Hey… the power came back on.

Diana: Well… sorta. I managed to convert the generator into an automatic, with a pinwheel I found in the basement. As long as the wind is still strong, we shouldn’t have any other power problems.

Jake: You did all of that yourself?

Diana: I had some help from Aurora.

[April hugs Dylan.]

April: Never scare me like that again, Dylan.

Jake: I… should talk to him, alone.

[Cut to the two of them in the Treasure Tracker’s meeting room. Dylan still looks sad.]

Dylan: I really screwed up today.

Jake: Let’s keep the past in the past. I wanna be sure you’re not going to do something like that in the future.

Dylan: I’m definitely not driving in a storm again—

Jake: That’s not what I meant.

[Jake stands up.]

Jake: Do you know why I refused to train you in fighting grown-ups?

Dylan: Because it takes years?

[Jake puts his hands on Dylan’s shoulders.]

Jake: No. I could probably teach you in a matter of weeks to at least stand a chance. I refused to teach you because you thought your parents would go crazy out of nowhere.

[Dylan looks down sadly.]

Jake: There’s a very delicate balance between kids and grown-ups in our world, Dylan.

Dylan: I don’t get it.

Jake: Exactly, you don’t. Kids have a duty, you need to protect and care for your parents. Parents also have a duty, to help guide their kids to be the best people they can be and to respect their leadership.

Dylan: I… was failing my duty.

Jake: Yes. If you keep treating people like monsters, what do you expect them to be?

[Dylan breaks down in tears.]

Dylan: I’m… sorry.

Jake: Good. Now come at me.

Dylan: What?

Jake: You wanted training. Come at me. We don’t have much time.

Dylan: Right.

[Cut to Jake helping all three of April’s wards in one of the Treasure Trackers rooms, built up like a gymnasium. April is there watching.]

Jake: Remember, there is no such thing as a truly fair fight between kids and grown-ups. If you are faced one-on-one, do everything you can to your advantage.

[As Jake speaks this, the three wards try fighting each other. Dylan fights Diana with

tree branches. It seems to be going well for Dylan, until Diana hooks his legs with her own and he falls down. Then Aurora pushes Diana down forward.]

Diana: Hey! No fair!

Aurora: I know (giggle).

[Jake looks down at Dylan, who rubbing himself where he fell.]

Jake: And remember, the most important thing - never forget what you're fighting for.

Dylan: My family.

[Jake keeps staring at him.]

Dylan: All of it.

Jake: Good.

[Jake goes and sits next to April.]

Jake: It's not much of a militia, but it's a start I suppose.

April: Even the greatest of things start small, Officer.

Jake: Hey, can I talk to you?

April: In private, I assume.

Jake: If that’s okay with you.

[Cut to them alone in the den. Jake is pacing around, while April is drinking from a tea cup with her walking stick.]

Jake: I’m worried. Beyond worried.

April: It’s only natural to be, during such trying times.

Jake: No… what happened to Dylan. That could have been me if you didn’t intervene.

April: I suppose you wish to thank me, or something of that sort?

Jake: Well, I guess so. It’s just… on the beach too.

April: It could have certainly been a coincidence.

Jake: I have a feeling that you don’t believe in coincidences. You almost sound like a teenager.

April: Almost?

Jake: With a little more sense, I suppose.

[April laughs.]

April: Do you really think that I have some… special insight to the world around?

Jake: I dunno. At this stage… I just want some kind of answers. I want to know… how bad everything is going to be.

April: No one can tell the future, Officer Jake. But I can tell you what you're up against.

Jake: Well… I'm listening.

April: You may have dealt with bad grown-ups on all parts of the spectrum, but I assure you that you have never faced anything close to someone like Shane Anderson.

Jake: What do you know? I mean, he's smart.

April: No… Aurora, Diana. They're smart. Shane is something else entirely. He refuses to engage in anything that he deems childish, but he understands children and their behavior.

[As April speaks we get imagery of technology.]

April: The human mind is a computer just as much as the phone in my pocket, and Shane knows which buttons to press to get the end result that he wants. He knows how to change the programming to anything that he so chooses. It's an unpleasant process.

Jake: I know. It’s kinda… what the Cute Camp does.

April: The Cute Camp is level one, compared to where Shane is. They say that hypnosis cannot force someone to do what they don’t wish to do, but what Shane is capable of runs much deeper than that.

Jake: Do… you think that we’ll win. I could barely make it through a stupid storm—

April: I told you, the future is unpredictable. It belongs to whoever wants it the most at this point.

Jake: Then failure is not an option.

[The sun breaks through the clouds as the hurricane is finally over.]

Jake: Finally, I can get to the mayor. But… without my sash, I don’t think she’ll even believe that I’m an Eagle, let alone the Cute Camp is overtaken.

April: I’ll go with you. I’m sure that she can be persuaded.

[Cut to Cute Camp, with the storm finally gone, Lexi stands on one of the balconies watching the Eagles get to work. Lexi’s hair has been removed of its dye and is now its natural brown color. It floats in the wind.]

Lexi: Move faster, each of you.

[The Eagles look up to Lexi for a beat.]

Lexi: Or else.

[The Eagles rush to work getting the boat constructed and doing their other work. Shane walks onto the balcony. Lexi doesn’t even flinch.]

Shane: Amazing isn’t it. It seems like kids can be well trained.

Lexi: Yes sir.

Shane: To think, something you tried to do for three years, I succeeded in three days.

[Shane looks Lexi in the eyes. With Lexi, there’s no anger at all. Shane smiles.]

Lexi: I was foolish.

Shane: But… no more. Come, you have some adoption papers to sign.

[Shane walks inside the building. Lexi follows, until her face becomes obscured in shadow.]

Lexi: Yes… father.